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ABSTRACT

This book reports some of the results of an extensive study of the physical, cognitive, language, social, and emotional development of Malaysian children. Chapter 1 of the book describes the demographics of the sample. Subjects were 3,099 preschool children in the state of Selangor and the federal district of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Data is reported by sector (disadvantaged urban children, nondisadvantaged urban children, rural children, and children living on estates); ethnicity (Malay, Indian, and Chinese); and gender. Chapter 2 presents data on children's birth weight, physical growth, and nutritional status. Children's physical development, language development, toilet training, immunization status, illnesses, and visual and hearing defects are discussed in Chapter 3. Chapter 4 examines infant feeding and preschoolers' diets. Information concerning worm infections is presented in Chapter 5. Chapter 6 discusses the effects of environmental factors on children's physical growth, health, and nutrition. Chapter 7 examines study results that relate to cognitive development, highlighting children's ability to classify, understand series and conservation, reason, and solve problems. Chapter 8 examines children's language development, vocabulary development, and language fluency. Data pertaining to children's social and emotional development and personality traits are presented in Chapter 9. Chapter 10 examines relationships among various areas of development discussed in the previous chapters. Chapter 11 draws implications from the study results for childrearing practices, parent education, and preschool educational practices. A reference list is included in each chapter. (BC)